GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:688
ANSWERED ON:12.07.2004
BUNGLING IN DEPARTMENT OF FOOD
Mahato Shri Bir Sing;Vasava Shri Mansukhbhai D.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of financial irregularities in the Department of Food due to lack of records has come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the past three years;

(c) whether any enquiry has been conducted for missing 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains in Punjab; and

(d) if so, the present status of the enquiry?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): No, Sir.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) & (d): The Managing Director, Food Corporation of India (FCI) had detected a discrepancy of about 50 lakh MTs in the stocks of wheat stored with the State Agencies in Punjab, as on 1st January, 2003, as reported by the Regional Office of FCI, Punjab. As per the information made available by the FCI, a Committee of officers of the FCI visited Punjab and their investigations revealed that the discrepancies arose due to deficiencies in the stock reporting system. The Government has already issued directions to the FCI to streamline the stock reporting system.